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1967

THE GREAT EXPERIMENT

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INDEPENDENCE DAY ORATION 1967

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Daniel J. Finn

INDEPENDENCE DAY ORATION, 1967

The Great Experiment

By
DANIEL J. FINN

DELIVERED BEFORE THE CITY GOVERNMENT AND
CITIZENS OF BOSTON IN FANEUIL HALL, ON
THE ONE HUNDRED AND NINETY-FIRST
ANNIVERSARY OF THE DECLARATION
OF INDEPENDENCE OF THESE
UNITED STATES, JULY 4, 1967



CITY OF BOSTON
PRINTING SECTION

The Great Experiment

INDEPENDENCE DAY ORATION, 1967

DELIVERED BY
DANIEL J. FINN

Colonel O'Connor, representing the Governor, Mr. Quealy, representing the Mayor, Mr. Chairman, Reverend Clergy, Fellow Citizens.

On this Independence Day, 1967, the great experiment of social and political revolution begun 191 years ago shows every promise of fulfilling the hopes held for it by George Washington and the 4,000,000 people who lived in his time in this country.

Our first President, on April 30, 1779, in his inaugural address, spoke of this when he said, "The preservation of the sacred fires of liberty and the destiny of the republican model of government are staked on the experiment and trust of the hands of the American people."

As modern Americans, we have some difficulty using terms such as "Sacred Fires of Liberty" and "Republican Model of Government."

I do not believe that Washington would object if we substituted phrases that we felt more comfortable with,

as long as we each understand that he was telling us that our nation cannot exist unless each citizen understands that the safety of the United States, now, and in the future, rests in "the hands of the American people."

We can understand him, however, when he uses the word "experiment." In our day, it is a most acceptable word. With the passing days, months, and years, we constantly are experimenting with new and adventurous programs, seeking ways to make all of our people totally free. Free by every definition of the word. Free from the harm of diseases. Free from the sorrows that come to citizens who cannot escape the past nor prepare for the future.

It is only too painfully clear that we have not yet found the way to freedom for all of our people. That is why "The Great Experiment" must continue. That is why, as we seek to achieve a better way of life for every human being amongst us, we realize that the dynamic processes of that experiment will never end.

While the country continues to change, it is opportune that we, on an occasion such as this, pause briefly, not only to honor the founders of the country, but to examine our past and draw from it some relevant material that we can employ to reduce the tensions of

our present problems, and, hopefully, anticipate some of the challenges that will come to us in the years ahead.

Join with me as we place an imaginary space ship in a stationary orbit over our United States. Move that space ship back in time to 1789, after George Washington had left office, and imagine him as a constant observer of our national growth. What would he have seen and felt? Over these two centuries, what would his questions be to us? We who have inherited this land. Probably his feelings about America would have ranged throughout the spectrum of human emotions, from pure happiness and pride to bitter agony and despair. He would have realized long ago that, as our population grew to 50,000,000, 100,000,000, and now nearly 200,000,000, most of our citizens would continue to be hard working and possess a respect for the law. With our increase in population, it would be obvious that we would have more people breaking laws, with some suggestion that they might be more harmful to their fellow citizens than they were in his time. We still have amongst us men of bias and prejudice. With us still are the weak and the strong, the industrious and the lazy, and men who can rise to become heroes or wither to become cowards.

The world would have turned on its axis some 80,000 times during his long stay in space. He would have watched with each turn an ever increasing flow of sailing

ships and steam vessels bring new citizens to his country as his successors opened the ports of America to the world.

Following his own war to secure freedom, he would have observed nine occasions when the men of the United States were called to arms, to defend liberty and maintain the domestic tranquility which gives us concern even today.

During the 190 years, the policies and actions of England, Mexico, Spain, Japan, Germany, Italy, China, North Korea, and North Vietnam have moved us to major military confrontation around the world, and, as painful as the external challenges have been, we have not been without internal disorder and conflict. Over 950 military engagements with the Indians were recorded before the west was safe to settle. Two decades earlier we struggled for four years, at a terrible cost in lives, to prove that no man or locality was above the laws of the nation and that acts of rebellion and disorder cannot be endured. It is a lesson that not everyone in our country has yet learned.

As many times as the nation and its people have been tested they have never been found wanting in strength or resolute determination not to be destroyed.

George Washington would have observed, also, that we have had moments of economic crisis in which we

abandoned our people to the free play of economic laws, and those who survived did so without much help from the government or their fellow citizens. He would have seen that attitude change, until we evidenced great concern for everyone, and we have translated that concern into thousands of laws, rules, and regulations, all designed to make the "Great Experiment" move at a faster, safer, and more controlled pace.

"Too much concern," some would argue. "Not enough," others would reply. The intensity and duration of concern that we must show for each other is a question that our people will have to answer in the very near future. We have, however, established guidelines that can assist us in arriving at the answers to several of the most important questions.

We, as a nation, have decided that everyone in the United States will be offered a free education. Much disagreement exists as to how good that education is, and whether the educational establishment is being administered correctly.

In the matter of health care, we appear to have decided that everyone is entitled to some degree of medical assistance if indigent, or at certain age levels. Again we find controversy, but, as in education, the points at issue do not question the validity of the basic program.

When we discuss the general grouping of problems

that have to do with poverty, hunger, and shelter, the ultimate goal that the nation seeks to reach is less clear. There is no doubt that some of our leaders have spelled out the goals. But I would seriously question if we, as a people, have committed ourselves to their attainment. Much experimentation has yet to be done in this area, and I suggest that speakers from this platform in years to come will still be provided with the opportunity of discussing poverty and the poor. For being poor in the United States is, in the minds of the American citizen, a relative thing. While the federal government has established poverty charts, any and every citizen will give you a different opinion as to what is poverty and what causes it. In addition, I would suspect that the first great rush of enthusiasm that sought to solve the problems of the poor has waned somewhat as the country became aware of the enormity of the problem and the fact that it will require decades of dedicated attention to control.

However, so much of our nation is poor by any standard. We must understand that in each day of our foreseeable future poverty will continue to be a major issue on the American scene.

I do not presume to be the conscience of anyone but myself, but, for myself, I feel that delay in overcoming poverty produces only danger for our people. We can-

not face the world, as an ideal demonstration of how democracy can prosper the world, if so many of our people are in want. If poverty, as so many experts tell us, produces more crime and furthers anxieties in our society, can we live in that society if there is hatred in the houses of the poor and fear in our streets?

If we can inhibit our positive response to poverty in general, we cannot stifle our outrage at the situation revealed by a distinguished panel of American physicians who reported on June 24, 1967, through the southern regional council that: "Thousands of Negro children in Mississippi are so undernourished and uncared for medically, they face grim and premature death." The report continues: "Not only are these children receiving no food from the government, they are also getting no medical attention whatsoever. They are living under such primitive conditions that we found it hard to believe we were examining American children of the twentieth century." If, from time to time, we would want to slow down the pace of the "Great Experiment," we could well use this as a reminder of what remains to be done in our United States.

While we may not all suffer from hunger, as do these children, we do all suffer from pollution. Pollution is so commonplace today that, except for a few interested citizens, it does not receive much attention and, sur-

prisingly, it does not alarm many people. Yet, pollution stands today as a major threat to our public and private health. We are destroying our rivers and our harbors, not only for the fish who once lived in them, but for our people who once used them for recreation. Our land is being inundated with waste of every description, and in some parts of our urban areas waste dominates the landscape. There is, now, no major city in the United States that has air free of poisonous chemicals. If Washington were really hovering in that spaceship in our sky, he probably would report that he has had difficulty in even seeing us lately. What a legacy for the next generation! In our generation, in those few communities that do show concern, we are only at the point of preliminary surveys and basic planning to deal with pollution. In the decades to come the forces that will be applied to poverty and pollution will be many, as we seek to eliminate them.

Listed among the most effective forces that will make their contribution to these areas will be that of the leaders of American business and industry. Some of these leaders have already made a minor effort in both fields. The poor need money, and the government, speaking for the people, will probably never give them enough to secure real economic freedom. If the poor are going to earn economic freedom, as they should, then

they must be skilled enough to be employed, and they can best develop skills in the one place that the skills are practiced — in American business and industry. In the last decade we have acquired enough experience to show that the limited programs now in existence have been successful. Even at a maximum pace throughout the seventies we cannot do it all. It will take a program of long duration, but this is no longer than the unskilled and unemployable poor will be with us. For the few who will not train, will not work, society must find another answer. It probably will not be economic freedom of any kind.

Turning once again to pollution, government and the people have a right to ask that American industry exercise self-control as the generators of future pollution. It is difficult to ask that one leader act when others do not, but that has always been the way in America. Someone must lead the way. Leader by leader, industry by industry, those men who possess the legacy that has made this a prosperous nation must quickly decide as to how they will balance the needs of their company against the harm to the people it affects. One thing is certain, government will not force the end of pollution by compliance. This is not feasible in the structure of our country as it now functions.

George Washington, still watching over us from

above, might not understand the last statement. It could be explained by pointing out to him that if every major crisis in our country is always going to be solved by greater government control and enforcement, then it would appear that this experiment would be removed from the hands of the people, and direction would come from a few professional administrators. This would be regrettable. Industry has made this problem, and I hope that it will not relinquish the opportunity to provide the solution. But Washington would realize that all progress comes to us by way of individual effort that is combined with the effort of others to achieve a common goal. Democracy at work, we would say.

“What is your present definition of democracy?” he might ask us.

And we should answer, “The same as it was in 1850 when the Yankee minister, Theodore Parker, declared that ‘Democracy does not mean that you are equal to others, but rather that others are equal to you.’ ”

“And do all citizens now participate in the affairs of the democracy?”

“No, Mr. President.”

“And why not?”

We can only reply that it has to do with frustrations and irritations of citizenship.

Let me tell you a short story told by Arthur Murphy, the President of *McCall's Magazine*.

"Four men were playing golf in a southern Connecticut town. After they had finished the ninth hole they decided to rest a moment and invited an approaching player to play through. Walking off the green, they heard behind them the swish of the club and later watched the man swing again, some 250 yards down the fairway. When they had finished the eighteen holes, they saw the man in the club house. One of the four approached him and complimented him on his long drive but remarked that he had not heard the smack of the ball. "Well," said the man, "I played golf and found it frustrating and irritating, so I made a list of all the things I liked about the game, and there were many; then I wrote down what I disliked about the game, and this was the 'ball,' so for two years I have been playing without the ball and I find that the game doesn't irritate or frustrate me anymore."

Mr. President, it is that we have in our midst too many legal citizens who play the game of citizenship without wanting or accepting the frustrations and irritations that go with the privilege.

George Washington would understand this, but he would urge us to instruct our next generation that if

everyone plays without the ball, there will soon be no game.

But our friend the Reverend Mr. Parker knew how difficult it is to instruct the next generation. Writing from the first half of the last century, he left us this message: "Old precedents will not suffice us, for we want something anterior to all precedents. We go beyond what is written, asking the cause of the precedent — the reason of the writing." He continues by saying: "Our fathers were great. They were giants, were they? Not at all — only great boys; and we are not only taller than they are but mounted on their shoulders to boot and see twice as far." He concludes in this manner: "My dear wise men, it is we that are the ancients and have forgotten more than our fathers knew. We will take their wisdom joyfully and thank God for it, but not their authority — we know better — and of their nonsense not a word."

And Mr. Washington probably would say — "It was so in my time."

This advice from the last century is echoed in what we hear today, and our sons will hear it from their sons. It is the way of each generation, the manner in which it comes of age and determines for itself what it shall do and where it shall go.

Since we shall hand them the unsolved problems of our time, perhaps it is wiser that we merely record what we tried to do and let them take wisdom from the record if there is any to be found.

We can hope that when our time of control and power comes to an end and we pass the power on, if we have worked competently and successfully, the period of transition will be peaceful. If we have failed to exercise the power with wisdom, then we can expect turmoil and anguish. It is a point, I suggest, to be considered as we act in concert as a nation and as individuals in our own homes.

We have come here today to Faneuil Hall with our sons and daughters, knowing that the words spoken and the deeds performed by the men and women who founded this nation will not be diminished by time or our failures, but they will be enlarged by our successes.

We walk with our children knowing that they are the most envied children in the world, but we come here with our children knowing that much of that world is hostile to us. If it is not open aggression, then it is quiet distrust. There are few places where our children can go and know they are among real friends.

We come as parents full of concern over our policy in Vietnam, knowing that we have in our membership

citizens who have deserted the nation because of that policy. We have knowledge that hundreds of thousands have fought for that policy and thousands died to support it.

But our concern as parents extends to the next decade as we anticipate the role that our country will play in world affairs, and, because of this, we must, as a people, keep informed about the drift of world affairs. More than ever it is vital that we do.

Thomas Jefferson warned us that "If a nation expects to be ignorant and free, it expects what never was and never will be."

In 1960, on the night before the nation voted for a new President, a young man came into this building, went to the armory of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery, located on the top floor, and late that night he made his final statement to the country. The next night Mr. Kennedy became our President-elect. We remember, now, his moving messages of the Presidency, but, in 1940, at the end of his college career, he wrote these words that blend with those of Jefferson. He said: "It is right and proper to support vigorously our way of living as being the greatest in the world, but it is not right and proper to be blind to its weaknesses. . . . A great advantage that our free press should give us is an opportunity to recognize our own weaknesses as well as our own strength. In so recognizing them, we may be able to guard against them."

With 10,000 newspapers, 8,000 magazines, 7,000 radio stations, and hundreds of television stations, can we, as a nation, condone ignorance? Yet, as recently as 1965 the Social Research Institute of the University of Michigan found that over 25 percent of our adult population had not heard of Vietnam, or that there were two Chinese governments.

We know that the United States is a nation of great strength; yet it does not exercise great power to dominate any part of the world. But we know also that any part of the world may call upon us for protection and we must, as a nation, be prepared to decide if we will answer each and every request. On this Fourth of July some of our citizens will pause to raise a flag and listen to the anthem. Others will not pause at all. Still others will sit in historic places or on town commons listening to one citizen amongst them rephrase what many have said before him. The past of America is great; the present is good, but troubled; and the future holds promise.

As we begin our new year of independence, we should continue to think about Mr. Washington and his Great Experiment. If it is to fulfill his hopes, then it will take the work of every pair of hands in America, and if our present and next generations are not ignorant of that fact, then, I submit to you, it will succeed.

A LIST
OF
BOSTON MUNICIPAL ORATORS

By C. W. ERNST

BOSTON ORATORS

APPOINTED BY THE MUNICIPAL AUTHORITIES

For the Anniversary of the Boston Massacre, March 5, 1770

NOTE.—The Fifth of March orations were published in handsome quarto editions now very scarce; also collected in book form in 1785 and again in 1807. The oration of 1776 was delivered in Watertown.

- 1771.—LOVELL, JAMES
- 1772.—WARREN, JOSEPH²
- 1773.—CHURCH, BENJAMIN^b
- 1774.—HANCOCK, JOHN^{a,2}
- 1775.—WARREN, JOSEPH
- 1776.—THACHER, PETER
- 1777.—HICHBORN, BENJAMIN
- 1778.—AUSTIN, JONATHAN WILLIAMS
- 1779.—TUDOR, WILLIAM
- 1780.—MASON, JONATHAN, JUN.
- 1781.—DAWES, THOMAS, JUN.
- 1782.—MINOT, GEORGE RICHARDS
- 1783.—WELSH, THOMAS

For the Anniversary of National Independence, July 4, 1776

NOTE.—A collected edition, or a full collection, of those orations has not been made. For the names of the orators, as officially printed on the title pages of the orations, see the Municipal Register of 1890.

- 1783.—WARREN, JOHN¹
- 1784.—HICHBORN, BENJAMIN
- 1785.—GARDNER, JOHN
- 1786.—AUSTIN, JONATHAN LORING
- 1787.—DAWES, THOMAS, JUN.
- 1788.—OTIS, HARRISON GRAY
- 1789.—STILLMAN, SAMUEL

^a Reprinted in Newport, R. I., 1774, 8vo., 19 pp.

^b A third edition was published in 1773.

¹ Reprinted in Warren's Life. The orations of 1783 to 1786 were published in large quarto; the oration of 1787 appeared in octavo; the oration of 1788 was printed in small quarto; all succeeding orations appeared in octavo, with the exceptions stated under 1863 and 1876.

^a Passed to a second edition.

1790. — GRAY, EDWARD
1791. — CRAFTS, THOMAS, JUN.
1792. — BLAKE, JOSEPH, JUN.²
1793. — ADAMS, JOHN QUINCY²
1794. — PHILLIPS, JOHN
1795. — BLAKE, GEORGE
1796. — LATHROP, JOHN, JUN.
1797. — CALLENDER, JOHN
1798. — QUINCY, JOSIAH^{2,3}
1799. — LOWELL, JOHN, JUN.²
1800. — HALL, JOSEPH
1801. — PAINE, CHARLES
1802. — EMERSON, WILLIAM
1803. — SULLIVAN, WILLIAM
1804. — DANFORTH, THOMAS²
1805. — DUTTON, WARREN
1806. — CHANNING, FRANCIS DANA⁴
1807. — THACHER, PETER^{2,5}
1808. — RITCHIE, ANDREW, JUN.²
1809. — TUDOR, WILLIAM, JUN.²
1810. — TOWNSEND, ALEXANDER
1811. — SAVAGE, JAMES²
1812. — POLLARD, BENJAMIN⁴
1813. — LIVERMORE, EDWARD ST. LOE
1814. — WHITWELL, BENJAMIN
1815. — SHAW, LEMUEL
1816. — SULLIVAN, GEORGE²
1817. — CHANNING, EDWARD TYRREL
1818. — GRAY, FRANCIS CALLBY
1819. — DEXTER, FRANKLIN
1820. — LYMAN, THEODORE, JUN.
1821. — LORING, CHARLES GREELEY²
1822. — GRAY, JOHN CHIPMAN

² Delivered another oration in 1826. Quincy's oration of 1798 was reprinted, also in Philadelphia.

³ Not printed.

⁴ On February 26, 1811, Peter Thacher's name was changed to Peter Oxenbridge Thacher. (List of Persons whose Names have been Changed in Massachusetts, 1780-1862, p. 21.)

1823. — CURTIS, CHARLES PELHAM²
 1824. — BASSETT, FRANCIS
 1825. — SPRAGUE, CHARLES⁶
 1826. — QUINCY, JOSIAH⁷
 1827. — MASON, WILLIAM POWELL
 1828. — SUMNER, BRADFORD
 1829. — AUSTIN, JAMES TRECOTHICK
 1830. — EVERETT, ALEXANDER HILL
 1831. — PALFREY, JOHN GORHAM
 1832. — QUINCY, JOSIAH, JUN.
 1833. — PRESCOTT, EDWARD GOLDSBOROUGH
 1834. — FAY, RICHARD SULLIVAN
 1835. — HILLARD, GEORGE STILLMAN
 1836. — KINSMAN, HENRY WILLIS
 1837. — CHAPMAN, JONATHAN
 1838. — WINSLOW, HUBBARD. "The Means of the Perpetuity and Prosperity of Our Republic."
 1839. — AUSTIN, IVERS JAMES
 1840. — POWER, THOMAS
 1841. — CURTIS, GEORGE TICKNOR.⁸ "The True Uses of American Revolutionary History."
 1842. — MANN, HORACE⁹
 1843. — ADAMS, CHARLES FRANCIS
 1844. — CHANDLER, PELEG WHITMAN. "The Morals of Freedom."
 1845. — SUMNER, CHARLES.¹⁰ "The True Grandeur of Nations."
 1846. — WEBSTER, FLETCHER
 1847. — CARY, THOMAS GREAVES
 1848. — GILES, JOEL. "Practical Liberty."
 1849. — GREENOUGH, WILLIAM WHITWELL. "The Conquering Republic."

² Six editions up to 1831. Reprinted also in his *Life and Letters*.

⁷ Reprinted in his *Municipal History of Boston*. See 1798.

⁸ Delivered another oration in 1862.

⁹ There are five or more editions: only one by the City.

¹⁰ Passed through three editions in Boston and one in London, and was answered in a pamphlet, *Remarks upon an Oration delivered by Charles Sumner . . . July 4th, 1845*. By a Citizen of Boston. See *Memoir and Letters of Charles Sumner*, by Edward L. Pierce, vol. ii, 337-384.

1850.— WHIPPLE, EDWIN PERCY.¹¹ “Washington and the Principles of the Revolution.”

1851.— RUSSELL, CHARLES THEODORE

1852.— KING, THOMAS STARR.¹² “The Organization of Liberty on the Western Continent.”

1853.— BIGELOW, TIMOTHY¹³

1854.— STONE, ANDREW LEETE.² “The Struggles of American History.”

1855.— MINER, ALONZO AMES

1856.— PARKER, EDWARD GRIFFIN. “The Lesson of '76 to the Men of '56.”

1857.— ALGER, WILLIAM ROUNSEVILLE.¹⁴ “The Genius and Posture of America.”

1858.— HOLMES, JOHN SOMERS²

1859.— SUMNER, GEORGE¹⁵

1860.— EVERETT, EDWARD

1861.— PARSONS, THEOPHILUS

1862.— CURTIS, THOMAS TICKNOR³

1863.— HOLMES, OLIVER WENDELL¹⁶

1864.— RUSSELL, THOMAS

1865.— MANNING, JACOB MERRILL.² “Peace Under Liberty.”

1866.— LOTHROP, SAMUEL KIRKLAND

1867.— HEPWORTH, GEORGE HUGHES

1868.— ELIOT, SAMUEL. “The Functions of a City.”

1869.— MORTON, ELLIS WESLEY

1870.— EVERETT, WILLIAM

1871.— SARGENT, HORACE BINNEY

1872.— ADAMS, CHARLES FRANCIS, JUN.

1873.— WARE, JOHN FOTHERGILL WATERHOUSE

1874.— FROTHINGHAM, RICHARD

1875.— CLARKE, JAMES FREEMAN. “Worth of Republican Institutions.”

¹¹ There is a second edition. (Boston: Ticknor, Reed & Fields. 1850. 49 pp. 12^{mo}.)

¹² First published by the City in 1892.

¹³ This and a number of the succeeding orations, up to 1861, contain the speeches, toasts, etc., of the City dinner usually given in Faneuil Hall on the Fourth of July.

1876.—WINTHROP, ROBERT CHARLES¹⁷

1877.—WARREN, WILLIAM WIRT

1878.—HEALY, JOSEPH

1879.—LODGE, HENRY CABOT

1880.—SMITH, ROBERT DICKSON¹⁸

1881.—WARREN, GEORGE WASHINGTON. “Our Republic — Liberty and Equality Founded on Law.”

1882.—LONG, JOHN DAVIS

1883.—CARPENTER, HENRY BERNARD. “American Character and Influence.”

1884.—SHEPARD, HARVEY NEWTON

1885.—GARGAN, THOMAS JOHN

1886.—WILLIAMS, GEORGE FREDERICK

1887.—FITZGERALD, JOHN EDWARD

1888.—DILLAWAY, WILLIAM EDWARD LOVELL

1889.—SWIFT, JOHN LINDSAY.¹⁹ “The American Citizen.”

1890.—PILLSBURY, ALBERT ENOCH. “Public Spirit.”

1891.—QUINCY, JOSIAH.²⁰ “The Coming Peace.”

1892.—MURPHY, JOHN ROBERT

1893.—PUTNAM, HENRY WARE. “The Mission of Our People.”

1894.—O’NEIL, JOSEPH HENRY

1895.—BERLE, ADOLPH AUGUSTUS. “The Constitution and the Citizens.”

1896.—FITZGERALD, JOHN FRANCIS

¹⁷ Probably four editions were printed in 1857. (Boston: Office Boston Daily Bee, 60 pp.) Not until November 22, 1864, was Mr. Alger asked by the City to furnish a copy for publication. He granted the request, and the first official edition (J. E. Farwell & Co., 1864, 53 pp.) was then issued. It lacks the interesting preface and appendix of the early editions.

¹⁸ There is another edition. (Boston: Ticknor & Fields, 1859, 69 pp.) A third (Boston: Rockwell & Churchill, 1882, 46 pp.) omits the dinner at Faneuil Hall, the correspondence and events of the celebration.

¹⁹ There is a preliminary edition of twelve copies. (J. E. Farwell & Co., 1863. (7) 71 pp.) It is “the first draft of the author’s address, turned into larger, legible type, for the sole purpose of rendering easier its public delivery.” It was done by “the liberality of the City Authorities,” and is, typographically, the handsomest of these orations. This resulted in the large-paper 75-page edition, printed from the same type as the 71-page edition, but modified by the author. It is printed “by order of the Common Council.” The regular edition is in 60 pp., octavo size.

1897.— HALE, EDWARD EVERETT. “The Contribution of Boston to American Independence.”¹⁷

1898.— O’CALLAGHAN, REV. DENIS.

1899.— MATTHEWS, NATHAN, JR. “Be Not Afraid of Greatness.”

1900.— O’MEARA, STEPHEN. “Progress Through Conflict.”

1901.— GUILD, CURTIS, JR. “Supremacy and Its Conditions.”

1902.— CONRY, JOSEPH A.

1903.— MEAD, EDWIN D. “The Principles of the Founders.”

1904.— SULLIVAN, JOHN A. “Boston’s Past and Present. What Will Its Future Be?”

1905.— COLT, LE BARON BRADFORD. “America’s Solution of the Problem of Government.”

1906.— COAKLEY, TIMOTHY WILFRED. “The American Race: Its Origin, the Fusion of Peoples; Its Aim, Fraternity.”

1907.— HORTON, REV. EDWARD A. “Patriotism and the Republic.”

1908.— HILL, ARTHUR DEHON. “The Revolution and a Problem of the Present.”

1909.— SPRING, ARTHUR LANGDON. “The Growth of Patriotism.”

1910.— WOLFF, JAMES HARRIS. “The Building of the Republic.”

1911.— ELIOT, CHARLES W. “The Independence of 1776 and the Dependence of 1911.”

1912.— PELLETIER, JOSEPH C. “Respect for the Law.”

1913.— MACFARLAND, GRENVILLE S. “A New Declaration of Independence.”

1914.— SUPPLE, REV. JAMES A. “Religion: The Hope of the Nation.”

¹⁷ There is a large paper edition of fifty copies printed from this type, and also an edition from the press of John Wilson & Son, 1876. 55 pp. 8°.

¹⁸ On Samuel Adams, a statue of whom, by Miss Anne Whitney, had just been completed for the City. A photograph of the statue is added.

¹⁹ Contains a bibliography of Boston Fourth of July orations, from 1783 to 1889, inclusive, compiled by Lindsay Swift, of the Boston Public Library.

²⁰ Reprinted by the American Peace Society.

1915.—BRANDEIS, LOUIS D. "True Americanism."

1916.—CHAPPLE, JOE MITCHELL. "The New Americanism."

1917.—GALLAGHER, DANIEL J. "Americans Welded by War."

1918.—FAUNCE, WILLIAM H. P. "The New Meaning of Independence Day."

1919.—DECOURCY, CHARLES A. "Real and Ideal American Democracy."

1920.—WISEMAN, JACOB L. "America and Its Vital Problem."

1921.—MURLIN, DR. L. H. "Our Great American."

1922.—BURKE, DR. JEREMIAH E. "Democracy and Education."

1923.—LYONS, REV. CHARLES W., S.J. "The American Mind."

1924.—FERRELL, REV. DUDLEY H. "The Genesis and Genius of America."

1925.—DOWD, THOMAS H., A.B., LL.B., LL.D. "Our Heritage."

1926.—PETERS, ANDREW J. "A Citizen's Responsibility for Democracy."

1927.—MCGINNIS, WILLIAM. "Responsibility of Citizenship."

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